



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

**Matthew G. Bevin, Governor**

**Greg Thomas, Secretary**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Naitore Djigbenou**  
**(502) 564-3419**  
**Naitore.djigbenou@ky.gov**

### **Transportation secretary makes appointments to two top Cabinet roles**

*Appoints Paul Looney deputy secretary and Andy Barber state highway engineer*

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** (Jan. 4, 2018) – Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) Secretary Greg Thomas appointed Paul Looney deputy secretary and Andy Barber state highway engineer of the Department of Highways on Monday.

“I’m pleased to welcome Paul and Andy aboard,” said Secretary Thomas. “Working their way up from KYTC college scholarship recipients to Cabinet leaders, they have a proven background in the field and have demonstrated their dedication to serving the Commonwealth. I look forward to working alongside them to lead our Cabinet forward as we address pressing infrastructure needs amidst funding challenges.”

#### **Paul Looney named deputy secretary for the Office of the Secretary**

As a KYTC Civil Engineering Scholarship recipient, Looney began his career with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet after graduating from the University of Kentucky in 1996 with a civil engineering degree.

Looney spent 16 years in the Division of Highway Design as a pavement engineer and later became pavement branch manager. In 2014, he transitioned to the role of assistant state highway engineer where he was the project manager for the Interstate 69 projects in Kentucky and also managed the Expedited Bridge Replacement Program. Looney most recently served as the executive director of the Office of Project Development. During his time in the role, he implemented the Performance Based Flexible Solutions initiative that evaluates the financial and design efficiency of projects, which has led to significant gains for the Cabinet.

Looney lives in Frankfort with his wife Natalie and their two children, Lachlan and Poppy.

#### **Andy Barber named state highway engineer for the Department of Highways**

Barber replaces Patty Dunaway as state highway engineer following Dunaway’s retirement at the end of 2017.

Prior to being named state highway engineer, Barber served as the Department of Highway’s deputy state highway engineer for project delivery and preservation. In that role, he oversaw the six divisions that procure, construct and maintain the Commonwealth’s roads and bridges. Prior to that, he served as the KYTC’s project manager on the Louisville-Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project, leading a team that delivered the

Downtown Crossing portion ahead of schedule and under budget. He also served as KYTC's project manager for the Milton Madison Bridge Replacement Project, which was delivered via the largest truss slide in North America. Barber got his start in construction in the Fayette County resident engineer's office in District 7.

A recipient of the KYTC Civil Engineering Scholarship, Barber earned his Bachelor of Science in civil engineering at the University of Kentucky.

Barber resides in Louisville with his wife Jennifer and daughters, Molly and Lucy.

Looney's and Barber's appointments became effective on Jan. 1.

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